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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/764,901 | 01/26/2004 | Michael D. Hillman | 29498/30004A | 2723 |
| 4743 | 7590 12/29/2005 | | EXAMINER | |
| MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP | | | JOHNSON, BLAIR M | |
| 233 S. WACK SEARS TOW | ER DRIVE, SUITE 6300 FR | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| CHICAGO, II | - | | 3634 | |

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 10/764,901 | HILLMAN ET AL. | | | |
| Office Action Summary | Examiner | Art Unit | | | |
| | Blair M. Johnson | 3634 | | | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply | | | | | |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING D. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.1 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period or Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). | ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timwill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from a cause the application to become ABANDONE | | | | |
| Status | | | | | |
| , | action is non-final. | secution as to the merits is | | | |
| 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. | | | | | |
| Disposition of Claims | : | | | | |
| 4) Claim(s) 19-37,46-48 and 54-72 is/are pending 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdray 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) 19-37,46-48 and 54-72 are subject to | wn from consideration. | ement. | | | |
| Application Papers | | | | | |
| 9) The specification is objected to by the Examine 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accomposed and applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Example 11. | epted or b) objected to by the l drawing(s) be held in abeyance. Sec tion is required if the drawing(s) is ob | e 37 CFR 1.85(a). jected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). | | | |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 | | | | | |
| 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. | | | | | |
| Attachment(s) | _ | | | | |
| Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date | 4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail D 5) Notice of Informal F 6) Other: | | | | |

Art Unit: 3634

The reply filed on 9/30/05 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): The election of the invention of group I is proper. However, the election of a species is not proper. After the listing of the different categories of species, the following statement appears: "One each of these categories must be chosen." This means that one blind system, one take-up system; one brake system; one counterbalance system; and one bottom rail weight must be chosen. In light of Applicant's response, namely the mentioning of claims 19 and 20, these two claims appear to recite two different embodiments: the one having a "release button" and the one having the squeeze brake. Consequently, Applicant must select one of each species category. Certain species of one group may only be compatible with a certain species of another group. For instance, a certain brake may not be compatible with, for example, the blind of Figs. 27 and 28. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment.

EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Blair M. Johnson whose telephone number is (571) 272-6830. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on (571) 272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Blair M. Johnson Primary Examiner Art Unit 3634 Page 3

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